

## NOTES.

NOTE ON THE NEPIONIC SHELL OF *MELO INDICUS*, GMEL. (*Read 14th November, 1902.*)—The embryo shells extracted from the egg-cluster of *Melo Indicus*, Gmel., exhibited to-night by Mr. Fulton, show one extremely interesting feature. In most gastropod shells the apical whorls (protoconch, or nucleus) are distinctly marked off from the succeeding whorls by a well-defined line, and whilst either plain or having a sculpturing of their own differ in any case in ornamentation from the later or adult shell.

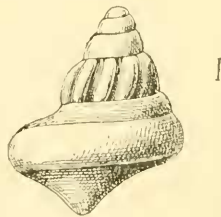
It has generally been held that this line of demarcation, indicative of a pause in the growth of the shell, also showed the extent of the growth of the shell within the egg, the deposition of shell bearing the markings of the adult not taking place until after exclusion from the egg.

In the present instance, however, every one of the young, or nepionic shells, extracted from the egg-capsules has begun to form shell having the colour-markings of the adult, so that in this case the pause in growth, which, moreover, is but faintly marked, if at all, affords no measure of the extent of the shell formed within the egg, shell formation having been resumed on the adult plan prior to exclusion.

It would be a matter of great interest to learn if other similar instances occur, or whether the present is an exceptional example.

B. B. WOODWARD.

NOTE ON A MONSTROSITY OF *RISSEOIA PARVA*, DA COSTA. (*Read 12th December, 1902.*)—In a haul of the dredge taken in from 5 to 10 fathoms off the north of Guernsey last Summer there occurred a large number of *Rissoia parva*, including specimens of the usual colour and of the var. *nigra*, Norman.



Monstrosity of *Rissoia parva*, Da C.

One specimen of a distorted form was taken in which the earlier whorls are quite regular, but suddenly—owing probably to an injury to the animal—the shape is entirely altered and the sculpture ceases, the shell becoming smooth. The whorl is flattened vertically, being squeezed out, and a large broad carination appears. The specimen was alive, but immature, and, unfortunately, was not detected until the animal was dead.

E. R. SYKES.